

## Message Text

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42

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-15 EB-07 COME-00 IGA-01 /092 W

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R 031430Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4286

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

RUVQBRLXAMEMBASSY LUSAKA 474

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0006

E.O.11652:N/A

TAGS :PINT, PFOR, SF

SUBJ :VORSTER'S NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. PRIME MINISTER VORSTER'S NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE REAFFIRMED SAG'S ANTIPATHY TOWARDS UN, UNWILLINGNESS TO DEAL WITH SWAPO, AND DEDICATION TO MOVE AT ITS OWN PACE, UNINFLUENCED BY REST OF WORLD, ON DOMESTIC ISSUES. END SUMMARY.

2. VORSTER ATTACKED 'SO CALLED THIRD WORLD' FOR ATTEMPTING TO TURN UN INTO 'SUPER WORLD PARLIAMENT...WHERE IMPLEMENTATION OF (ITS) CAUCUS DECISIONS WILL BE A MERE FORMALITY.' HE NOTED THAT U.S. AMBASSADOR SCALI HAS SPOKEN OUT AGAINST THIS TREND WHICH 'GIVES RISE TO HOPES THAT THAT COUNTRY AT LEAST WILL STRENUOUSLY OPPOSE SUCH PLANS.' VORSTER STATED THAT SAG'S OPPOSITION TO 'MANIFEST ILLEGAL ACTIONS OF UN, TOTAL DISREGARD OF RIGHTS OF CERTAIN MEMBER STATES AND OBVIOUS DOUBLE STANDARDS' HAS ALREADY LED TO RECALL OF AMBASSADOR. DURING

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1975 SAG WILL REVIEW ITS POSITION AND DETERMINE FURTHER

ROLE,IF ANY, WE HAVE TO PLAY IN THAT BODY'.

3. VORSTER ALSO STATES THAT, 'IT CLEAR THAT WE WILL NOT BE DICTATED TO AS FAR AS OUR DOMESTIC POLICY IS CONCERNED.' WITH SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO NAMIBIA,HE SAID,'THE PEOPLES WILL DECIDE THEIR OWN FUTURE. SWAPO IS NOT SOUTH WEST AFRICA AND ITS SO-CALLED LEADERS OUTSIDE ARE NEITHER THE NATURAL NOR THE ELECTED LEADERS OF ANY OF THE PEOPLES AND MUST NOT BE IMPOSED ON THEM BY ANY OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION.'

4. VORSTER SPOKE APPROVINGLY OF HIS GOVERNMENT'S ROLE IN FOSTERING DETENTE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND OF THE CHANGING ATTITUDE OF OTHER AFRICAN STATES TOWARDS SOUTH AFRICA. HE IMPLIED THAT THIS WOULD BEAR FRUIT THIS YEAR. DESPITE RELATIVE OPTIMISM,VORSTER STATED THAT SOUTH AFRICA MUST REMAIN ON GUARD AT ALL TIMES.

5. THOUGH NOTING THAT THERE MIGHT BE A SLOWDOWN IN THE ECONOMIC SPHERE DURING 1975, VORSTER OUTLINED SOUTH AFRICA'S POSITION AS A RELATIVELY ENVIABLE ONE WHEN COMPARED TO THE REST OF THE FREE WORLD, WHICH MUST COPE WITH A VARIETY OF ECONOMIC MALADIES. PRIME MINISTER TOLD SOUTH AFRICANS TO EXPECT A YEAR WITHOUT COMFORT IN 1975 AND SPECULATED ALOUD WHETHER WORLD PEACE MIGHT BE IN JEOPARDY.

6.COMMENT: VORSTER'S MESSAGE INTRODUCED NO NEW THEMES INTO POLITICAL DISCUSSION. MOST IMPORTANTLY, AND NOT SURPRISINGLY, CONSIDERING HIS AUDIENCE, HE INDICATED NO WAVERING ON HIS PART THAT SOUTH AFRICA WILL MOVE AT ITS WON PACE ON DOMESTIC AFFAIRS AND NAMIBIA. IN VORSTER'S VIEW SAG IN RELATIVELY STRONG POSITION AND ABLE TO ACT INDEPENDENTLY,UNINFLUENCED BY UNITED NATIONS,WHICH IT SEES AS BECOMING INCREASINGLY DISCREDITED,OR BY OTHER POWERS WHICH, IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN VIEW, WILL HAVE ENOUGH TO DO TO KEEP THEIR OWN HEADS ABOVE WATER IN THE COMING YEAR.

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